BCS Health, Safety and Welfare Policy Statement

(Reviewed September 2026)

In accordance with the Safety, Health, and Welfare at Work Act 2005, it is the policy of the Board of Management of Blackwater Community School to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the safety, health, and welfare at work of all staff and to protect students, visitors, contractors, and other persons at Blackwater Community School from injury and ill-health arising from any work and/or activity of the school.

In so doing the Board of Management's health and safety objectives, so far as is reasonably practicable, are to:

a) comply with, implement, and promote the provisions and requirements of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005 and associated legislation, best practice standards, and codes of practice.
b) promote awareness of safety, health, and welfare responsibilities of all staff (to include volunteers, contractors etc.) working/volunteering for or on the behalf of Blackwater Community School and make this Safety Statement available to interested third parties, as appropriate.
c) consult with staff (and students as deemed applicable) on matters related to safety, health, and welfare.
d) identify hazards and eliminate (where possible) or significantly reduce risks to staff, students, contractors, visitors, and others by implementing and managing safety, health, and welfare risk controls.
e) provide and maintain safe and healthy working conditions, systems of work and facilities for the prevention of injury and ill health.
f) provide information, instruction, training, and supervision, where necessary, to enable staff to perform their work and activities safely and effectively.
g) maintain a constant and continuing interest in safety, health and welfare matters pertinent to the activities of the school.
h) provide the necessary resources to ensure the safety, health, and welfare of all those to whom the school Board of Management owes a duty of care, including staff, students, contractors, and visitors.
i) review the safety, health, and welfare policy and objectives annually to ensure they remain relevant and appropriate.
j) continually improve the system in place for the management of safety, health and welfare performance and review it periodically to ensure it remains relevant, appropriate, and effective.

The Board of Management is committed to actively implementing this safety, health and welfare policy and the achievement of the associated objectives. The successful implementation of this policy and achievement of the associated objectives requires the full support and active co-operation of all staff, contractors, students, etc. at the school.

A copy of this statement, and any reviewed statements, will be made available for consultation for all school staff and Board of Management. The Safety Statement is stored in the office and available to view. It will be reviewed on a regular basis and supplemented, as appropriate, to meet existing and future legislation and good practice.

This policy and its implementation will be reviewed by the Board of Management once in every school year. Written notification that the review has been completed will be made available to school personnel, published on the school and provided to the Parents' Association. A record of the review and its outcome will be made available, if requested, to the patron and the Department.

Signed: **Colette Power** (Chairperson of Board of Management)

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Signed: **Denis Ring** (Principal)

Denis Ring

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Date: 22/09/2026